

NEWPORT PAGNELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTOF THEMEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTHFOR THE YEAR 1947.

Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for the year 1947. It follows the same lines as last year. There is no outstanding feature to report, but the various Public Health Services have been well maintained. The watersupply, although maintained during the year, causes some anxiety as to quantity, as there is little margin to deal with a dry season or any increase in the consumption due to expansion and growth of the District. But your Council is fully alive to this and are taking steps to ensure an adequate supply.

I hope progress will be made in the near future with the new Sewage Scheme as it is a matter of the utmost importance for the health and well being of the District. Scavenging has been well maintained during the year and the weekly collection of refuse is most satisfactory and I hope will be maintained. There has been little Infectious disease in the District, 3 cases of measles were notified but on the whole the outbreak was a mild one. One case of Infantile Paralysis was notified, it was treated at the Oxford Isolation Hospital where 12 beds had been specially set aside for these cases. I am glad to be able to say that the child made a perfect recovery.

SECTION A.General Statistics.

	<u>1947</u>	<u>Appendix</u> <u>1946</u>
Area (in acres)	3432	
Number of Inhabited houses	1388	1364
Estimated population	4413	4313
Sum represented by a 1d Rate	£96	£95

Vital Statistics.

Total Births:	90	71
Males Legitimate	41	33
Illegitimate	2	3
Females Legitimate	46	32
Illegitimate	1	3
Estimated population	4413	4313
Birth Rate (per 1000)Pop.	20.39	16.46
		No stillbirths.

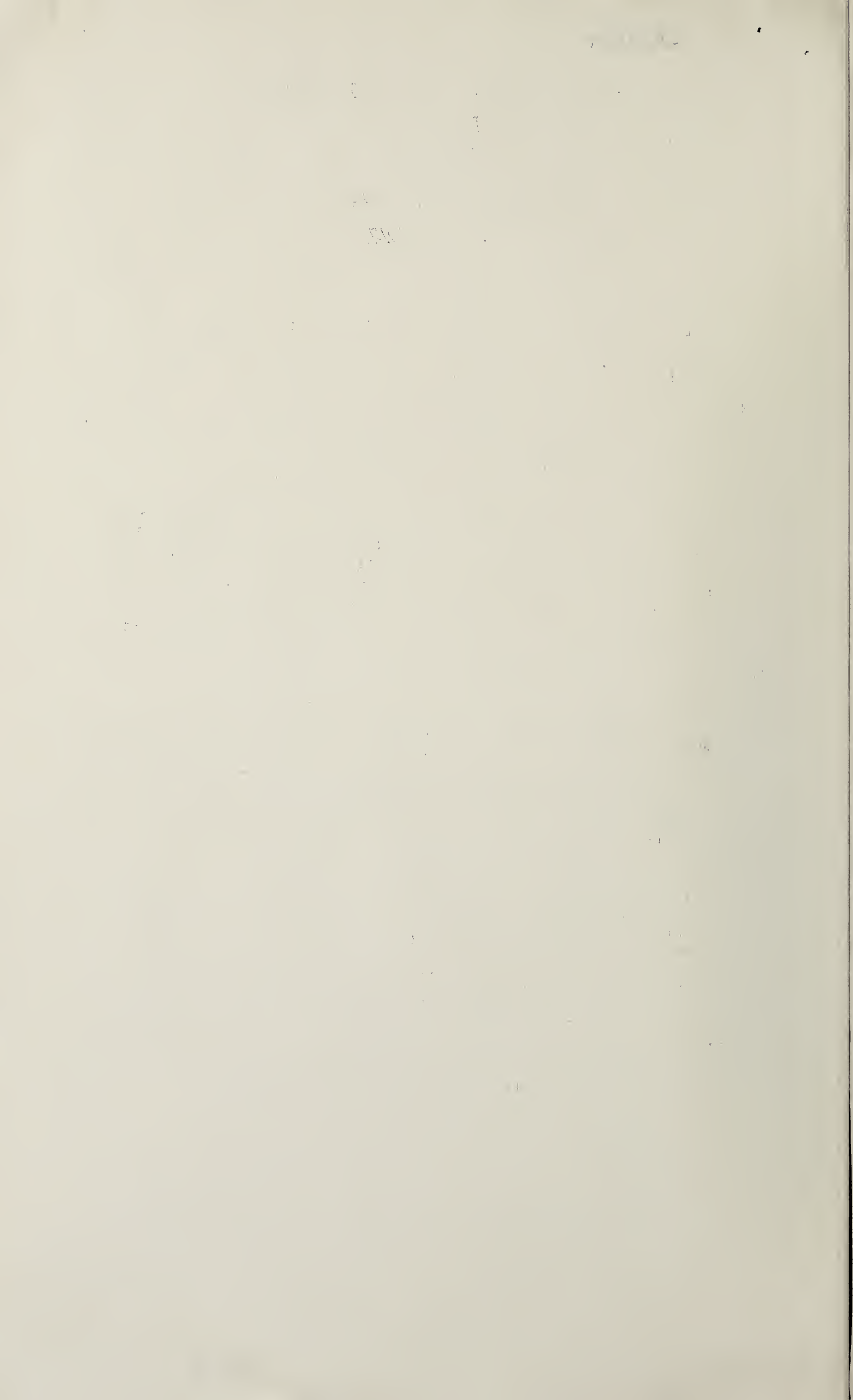
Birth Rate for the whole of England & Wales was	20.5
" 126 County Boroughs	" 23.3
" 148 smaller towns	" 22.2
" the London County	" 22.7

Total Deaths:	68	69
Males	34	30
Females	34	39
Estimated population	4413	4313
Death rate (per 1000)Pop.	15.41	16.00

Deaths of Infants under

1 year.

1 male
legitimate.1 female
legitimate.



The Death rate for the whole of England & Wales was 12.0

"	126 County Boroughs	"	13.0
"	148 smaller towns	"	11.9
	the London County	"	12.8

From locally compiled statistics I find the deaths of elderly people gave the following results:

Age 70-75	11
75-80	14
80-85	9
85-90	7
over 90	3
Total deaths over 70.	<u>44</u>

SECTION B.

There is no material change in the services under this heading.

The Public Health Laboratory at the General Hospital, Northampton has rendered good service chiefly in the examination of throat swabs. Many have been submitted to them and full reports furnished both to the Practitioners concerned and to me.

The Ambulance Service has been most efficient during the year. All cases have been promptly removed to hospital especially urgent cases. In the event of accidents the Ambulance was quickly on the spot and ready to render first aid and remove the cases either to their homes or hospital. This unobtrusive service is most valuable to the community and the voluntary work of the St. John Ambulance Association deserves the highest praise.

SECTION C.

Water.

Ash Hill Supply. Considerable shortage from this source was experienced during the year. This source could only produce a supply averaging 30,000 gallons a day. It was, however, possible to supplement this from Caldecote supply. In consequence no restriction was imposed on domestic or business consumers during the year.

Chemical Examination showed the water to be suitable and wholesome for the purpose of public water supply although very hard.

Bacteriological Examination was very satisfactory - it showed B.Coli absent in 100 m.l. - Cl. Welchi reaction absent in 10 m.l. present in 100 m.l.

The Analyst's Report stated that the organic bacterial purity of the water was very satisfactory.

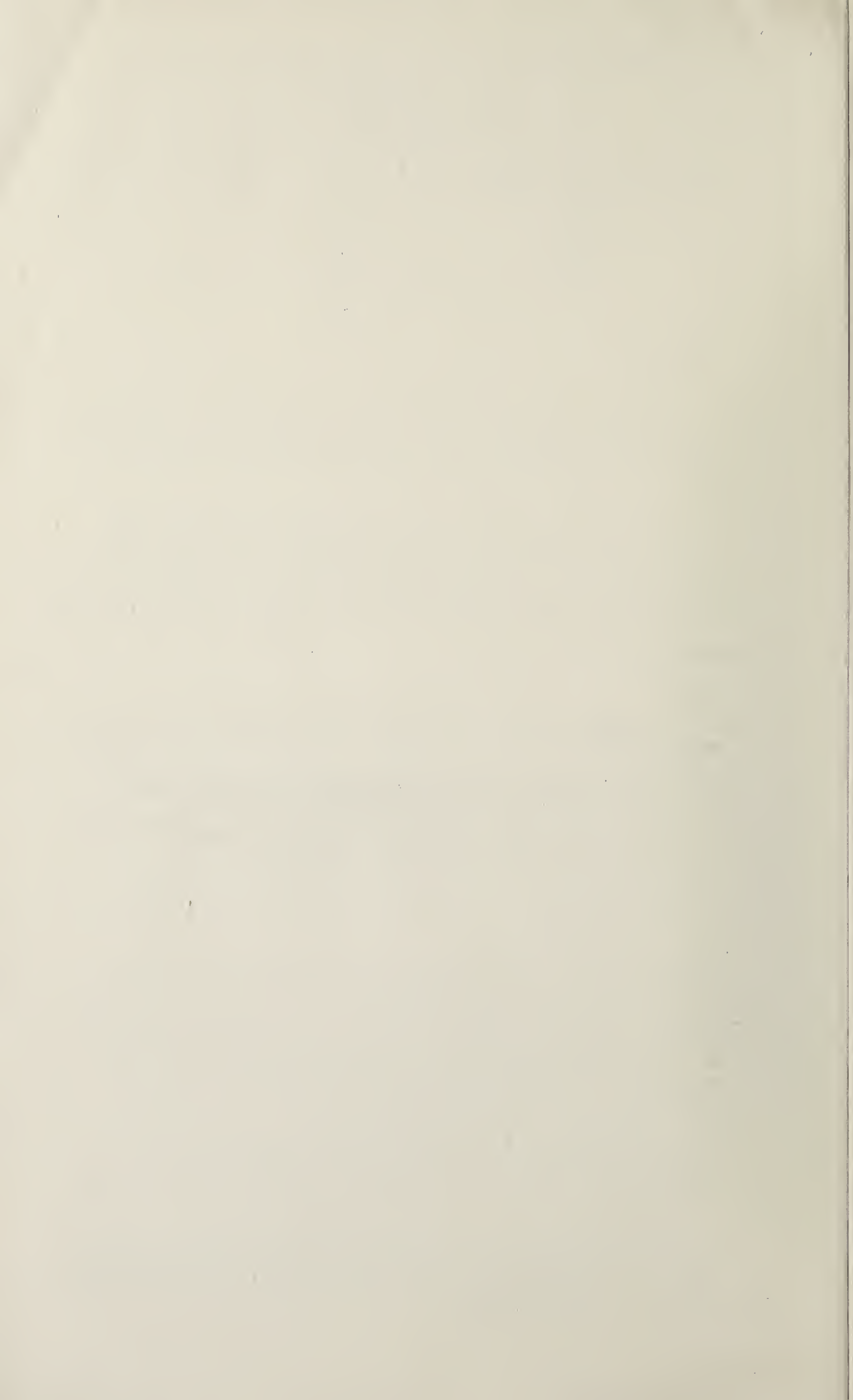
Caldecote supply. The daily average from this source was 125,000 gallons. The two sources combined thus yielded 155,000 gallons daily and thus no restrictions were necessary.

Quality. Raw Water. During the year one bacteriological analysis was made, this showed the water to be very hard, but not excessively so; to be of satisfactory organic quality for a surface supply and good standard of bacterial purity.

Treated Water. 13 Bacteriological Examinations were made during the year. B.Coli were absent in all these samples. Cl. Welchi reaction present in 1-100 m.l. on one occasion only.

The analyst reports that this water is of the highest standard of bacterial purity and that it is a pure and wholesome water suitable for a public supply.

The Bucks Water Board scheme for the purchase of water in bulk should be pressed forward as early as possible to meet increased demand in the future. I think the demand will certainly increase as more houses are built and more bathrooms installed. There may also be increased demand from business as industry expands.



Drainage and Sewerage.

There is little to add to my last Report, but I would again urge the necessity for pushing forward the proposed new sewage scheme. During the summer of this year some work was carried out at the existing works which comprised cleaning, deepening and widening soak away trenches, such work being only a temporary measure to improve existing conditions.

In the Spring extensive flooding occurred owing to the heavy fall of snow followed by a rapid thaw. Several hundred domestic premises were flooded, some to a depth up to $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

Since then some improvement has been effected to the Caldecote Street surface water sewers. This, although not eliminating flooding, will reduce the period in Broad Street, Wolverton Road and Lakes Lane section of the town.

Scavenging.

I am glad to be able to report that a weekly collection of house refuse has been satisfactorily maintained during the year. I regard this as a most important service and every effort should be made to continue the weekly collection.

SECTION D.

Housing.

Of the 40 houses sanctioned by the Ministry of Health a further 14 were completed and occupied during the year. It is hoped that the remaining 22 will be completed by August 1948.

One private enterprise house has been completed and a further 5 private enterprise houses are in course of construction.

The Bucks County Council have built two service houses for officers of Renny Lodge.

Owing to the difficulty in obtaining labour and materials a number of working class dwellings have suffered considerable depreciation. This has been aggravated by the Spring floods. Every effort, nevertheless, is being made to improve these properties.

There are several houses which, under normal conditions, would be recommended for demolition owing to the fact that they could not be rendered fit in all respects at a reasonable cost. I do not propose, however, to make such recommendation owing to the acute shortage and great difficulties in the housing situation at the present time.

SECTION E.

Milk

Samples are taken each month and submitted to the Northampton County Council Laboratory for bacteriological examination and keeping qualities. Pasteurised milk is submitted to the Phosphatase Test. This is for the purpose of showing that the milk has been subject to correct heat treatment. This has shown that not all samples are satisfactory. When samples are found unsatisfactory each case is followed to the source and this action appears to have caused some improvement during the year.

Meat.

Regular slaughtering is carried out at the Ministry of Food Abattoir at Bedford and the meat transported. Some emergency slaughtering is done in the District, and every carcass so slaughtered is inspected prior to release from the slaughter house.

Fish.

This is a very perishable commodity. In a number of cases it has been necessary to condemn a whole consignment owing to the long period between despatch from the ports and delivery here.

Ice Cream.

The consumption of this has much increased of late years especially by children. It is a commodity very liable to contamination and the utmost care must be taken in all processes of manufacture and distribution. Your officers are endeavouring to improve the conditions under which the manufacture and sale is conducted. A copy of the Ministry of Health Circular 69/47 has been distributed to all manufacturers and distributors in your district.

I would recommend that the Council should consider the question of taking samples by your staff for the purpose of bacteriological examination.

SECTION F.

Infectious Diseases. Table 1.

Notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1947.

Disease.	Total cases notified	Admitted to hospital
Diphtheria	1	-
Erysipelas	1	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-
Measles	39	-

Table 2

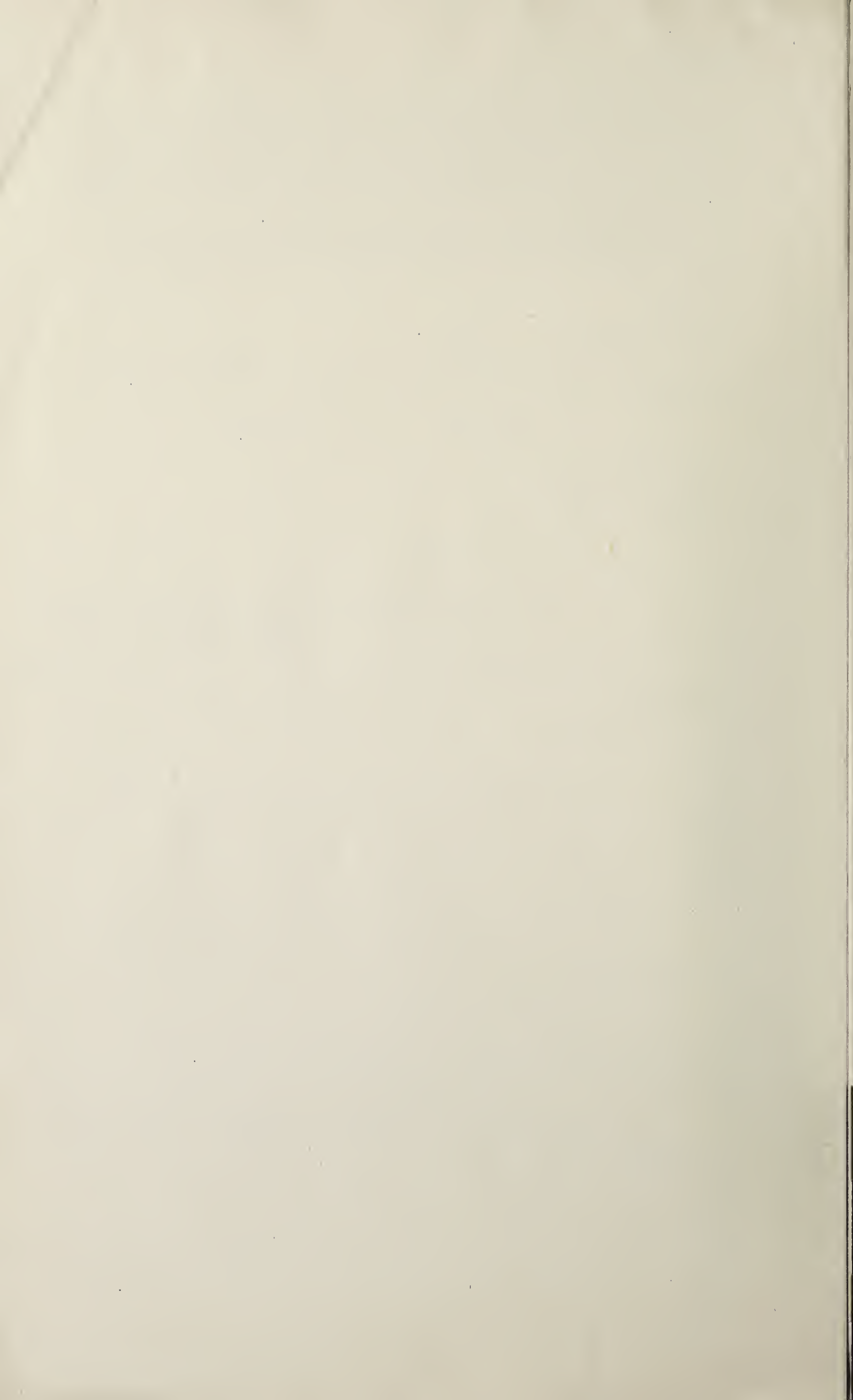
Age period.	Diphtheria		Erysipelas		Acute Polio.		Puerperal Pyrexia		Measles	
	N	H	N	H	N	H	N	H	N	H
Under 1 year									1	
1 - 2 years									3	
2 - 3									3	
3 - 4									5	
4 - 5	1								12	
5 - 10					1	1			15	
10-15										
15-20										
20-35							1			
35-45										
45-65			1							
Over 65										
	1		1		1	1	1		39	

N - Notification
H - Admitted to hospital.

Table 3.

Tuberculosis. New cases notified during 1947 and deaths in 1947

Age period	New cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year								
1 - 5 years		1						
5-10								
10-15								
15-20		1						
20-25								
25-35			1			1		
35-45								
45-55								
55-65								
Over 65								
	2		1			1		



Diphtheria Immunisation.

The following children have been immunised during the year
Under 5 years of age 38

In the coming year I hope to visit the schools in the District and give reinforcing doses to children who have been immunised 4 years or more. This will reach the majority of children, but there will be others who can only be reached through the family doctor. The doctors therefore will be asked to immunise any children between 5-15 years whose parents ask for it, either at their Surgeries or at the house of the children at an agreed fee.

This concludes my report. I am grateful to Mr Roberts and to Mr Hopkin for the help they have given me. Mr Hopkin's help has been most valuable; he has furnished me with statistics and information under nearly all sections of the Report and I am most grateful.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant

CHAS. H. F. BAILEY

Medical Officer of Health.

24th May 1943.

